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THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20505

National Intelligence Officers

29 October 1981

TO: Defense via Dr. Ikle
Dr. Ikle
Gen. Gorman
Asst. Secy. West
Dep. Asst. Secy. Sanchez

State via Mr. McFarlane
Judge Clark
Mr. McFarlane
Mr. Burt
Mr. Bremer
Messrs. Wolfowitz/Roche

SUBJECT: Comments on "Cuba/Central America" Summary for the President (Draft of 1200 noon, 28 October 1981)

CIA has a wide array of information suggesting that Cuba, Nicaragua, and the Central American guerrilla groups will move quickly and preemptively in the next months to:

(1) reinforce the Nicaraguan Government with Cuban or other troops introduced in a deceptive way--such as approximately 225 Cuban "special troops" who arrived in recent weeks on airplanes along with teachers;

(2) provide jet aircraft and additional amounts of other heavy weapons to Nicaragua which could permit it to intimidate or threaten Honduras and Costa Rica if they permit any "anti-Nicaraguan activities" on their soil;

(3) strengthen guerrilla/terrorist groups in El Salvador (the Sandinistas have called for volunteers to fight there), Honduras, Guatemala, Costa Rica--for expanded military/terrorist assaults in January-March 1982; this might well occur simultaneously at different levels of violence in the various countries for both military and political purposes--such as convincing Mexico and the Socialist International (meeting in Caracas in February 1982) and the US Congress that the guerrillas will eventually win and further help to the threatened government is hopeless or too costly.

In the light of this information, years of Cuban success in exporting subversion, Castro's well-established understanding of propaganda and the US political process and his tendency toward the fait accompli, the following suggestions are made concerning the latest State draft (28 October 1981)

[redacted]

Duane Clarridge
C/LAD/DDO

Constantine C. Menges
NIO/LA

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Att: Proposed Text Changes

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